

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

CRIMINAL NO. 1:15CR106
(Judge Keeley)

BERTHA HORTON,

Defendant.

**ORDER ADOPTING MAGISTRATE JUDGE'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION
CONCERNING PLEA OF GUILTY IN FELONY CASE (DKT. NO. 31),
ACCEPTING GUILTY PLEA, AND SCHEDULING SENTENCING HEARING**

On April 18, 2016, the defendant, Bertha Horton ("Horton"), appeared before United States Magistrate Judge Michael J. Aloï and moved for permission to enter a plea of GUILTY to Count Two of the Indictment. Horton stated that she understood that the magistrate judge is not a United States District Judge, and consented to pleading before the magistrate judge. This Court had referred the guilty plea to the magistrate judge for the purposes of administering the allocution pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11, making a finding as to whether the plea was knowingly and voluntarily entered, and recommending to this Court whether the plea should be accepted.

Based upon Horton's statements during the plea hearing and the testimony of Doug Yost, Detective, Fairmont City Police Department, the magistrate judge found that Horton was competent to enter a plea, that the plea was freely and voluntarily given, that she was

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aware of the nature of the charges against her and the consequences of her plea, and that a factual basis existed for the tendered plea. On April 19, 2016, the magistrate judge entered an Report and Recommendation Concerning Plea of Guilty in Felony Case ("R&R") (dkt. no. 31) finding a factual basis for the plea and recommended that this Court accept Horton's plea of guilty to Count Two of the Indictment.

The magistrate judge also directed the parties to file any written objections to the R&R within fourteen (14) days after service of the R&R. He further advised that failure to file objections would result in a waiver of the right to appeal from a judgment of this Court based on the R&R. After which, the parties did not file any objections.

Accordingly, this Court **ADOPTS** the magistrate judge's R&R, **ACCEPTS** Horton's guilty plea, and **ADJUGES** her **GUILTY** of the crime charged in Count Two of the Indictment.

Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(e)(2) and U.S.S.G. § 6B1.1(c), the Court **DEFERS** acceptance of the proposed plea agreement until it has received and reviewed the presentence report prepared in this matter.

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Pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 6A1 et seq., the Court **ORDERS** as follows:

1. The Probation Officer undertake a presentence investigation of Horton, and prepare a presentence report for the Court;

2. The Government and Horton are to provide their versions of the offense to the probation officer by **May 20, 2016**;

3. The presentence report is to be disclosed to Horton, defense counsel, and the United States on or before **July 19, 2016**; however, the Probation Officer is not to disclose the sentencing recommendations made pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 32(e)(3);

4. Counsel may file written objections to the presentence report on or before **August 2, 2016**;

5. The Office of Probation shall submit the presentence report with addendum to the Court on or before **August 16, 2016**; and

6. Counsel may file any written sentencing statements and motions for departure from the Sentencing Guidelines, including the factual basis from the statements or motions, on or before **August 30, 2016**.

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The magistrate judge placed Horton on bond pursuant to an Order Setting Conditions of Release (dkt. no. 8) entered on November 17, 2015.

The Court will conduct the sentencing hearing for the defendant on **Friday, September 9, 2016 at 2:00 P.M.** at the **Clarksburg, West Virginia** point of holding court.

It is so **ORDERED**.

The Clerk is directed to transmit copies of this Order to counsel of record, the defendant and all appropriate agencies.

DATED: May 6, 2016

/s/ Irene M. Keeley
IRENE M. KEELEY
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE